

from his expeditions to spread hope and inspiration. He makes regular visits to cancer wards and provides strength and courage for those who continue to suffer from and battle cancer. Sean has also begun a motivation speaking tour by visiting wounded troops and veterans all over the country and is currently making arrangements to speak in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Sean's story is truly inspirational, not only to those struggling to beat cancer, but to anyone who seeks to accomplish something that others say is impossible. I would like to commend Sean for his success and thank him for serving as such a positive role model to anyone who has faced long odds. Sean has proven the power of determination.●

#### RECOGNIZING DR. W. RON DEHAVEN

● Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I wish to recognize Dr. W. Ron DeHaven, Administrator of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, APHIS. As Administrator for the last 3 years, he has ably carried out the agency's mission of protecting American agriculture.

As a strong leader of APHIS' domestic safeguarding efforts, Dr. DeHaven has been the public face of USDA's effective, science-based response to bovine spongiform encephalopathy, BSE, in the United States. He has brought strong leadership skills to increasing U.S. preparedness to deal with avian influenza viruses in our poultry industry and ensuring that APHIS maintains robust emergency response and antismuggling programs designed to prevent the establishment of exotic pests and diseases of agriculture in our country.

Dr. DeHaven serves as one of USDA's principal liaisons to the Department of Homeland Security. He has worked closely with his colleagues there on a number of fronts, including agricultural commodity inspections at our Nation's ports of entry and the joint work of USDA and DHS officials at the Plum Island Animal Disease Center off Long Island, NY. The work of the researchers and diagnosticians at the Center ensures our nation is prepared in the event of a detection of a highly contagious foreign animal disease, such as foot-and-mouth disease or classical swine fever.

The agency's role has been shaped on the international front under Dr. DeHaven's direction. He has spearheaded efforts to stop the spread in poultry of the Asian strain of H5N1 highly pathogenic avian influenza. He has also advocated for improving international animal disease response infrastructure, traveling extensively to create a coalition of like-minded developed countries to work with the United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organization, FAO, and the World Organization for Animal Health. Dr. DeHaven helped push for implementation of a

Crisis Management Center at the FAO's headquarters in Rome, with the goal of coordinating global H5N1 response efforts. I believe that the U.S. poultry industry is better protected as a result of his efforts.

Dr. DeHaven's integrity, dedication, and professionalism have represented the United States proudly in all of these endeavors. He has consistently championed U.S. agriculture in all of his international relationships and activities.

We congratulate him on his retirement from the Federal Government, and thank him for his 28 years of service with APHIS.●

#### HONORING DANIEL BALDINGER

● Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to a valued friend, Daniel Baldinger, who passed away on July 4, 2007. Throughout his life he displayed a special kindness and a deep commitment to his friends and family. His spontaneous humor and wit made for a personality to which people were quickly attracted. He was multilingual, able to communicate in French, Italian, and Spanish among other languages as well. I enjoyed his company and looked forward to our times together. Dan, though creative and artistic, was also a skilled executive and presided over a family business started in 1955, which he quickly expanded into a booming business. The company, Louis Baldinger & Sons, became one of the leading companies in the lighting industry. Under Dan's leadership, Louis Baldinger & Sons' products were obtained by some of the countries most prestigious architects and designers.

While Dan achieved substantial success in his business ventures; he would be most proud of the breadth of friendships and loving relationships he shared with his family. He was a devoted and loving husband to his wife Marjorie of 48 years and together they enjoyed a wonderful family life. Dan was a proud father of his son Howard and daughter Toby, about whom he constantly bragged.

Dan was a caring man with deep intellectual curiosity and myriad interests. He was a person of various talents and abilities including cooking, which he did with flourish and gusto. At any given moment, one could find him discussing—in one of the many languages he spoke—baseball, his plans for the Design Industries Foundation Fighting AIDS, of which he was the national chairman, or his completion of the New York Marathon in 4 hours and 28 minutes.

While Dan is no longer with us, his memory will carry on. He lived life to the fullest and was a compassionate man who acted with integrity and decency. Dan touched so many lives and all of those that had the pleasure of knowing him will miss him greatly, including my wife Bonnie and me.●

#### HONORING DAVID A. WAKS

● Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, this week New Jersey lost one of its great citizens when Judge David A. Waks passed away far too early in life at 66 years of age.

I have known the Waks family over a number of years and his son, Joe Waks, carries on a proud family tradition of public service as chief of staff of my Senate operations in New Jersey.

David Waks was respected and admired for his candid, forthright action on decency and integrity in Government service. Known as someone who had a sympathetic ear and a generous heart, so much so that when a person in serious need sought his help he would reach into his own limited resources to assist. He was a model of a compassionate public servant who all in public service should emulate. Anyone who had the good fortune to know him was inspired by his genuine affection and concern. His life was exemplary and I wanted to ensure that a permanent record of David Waks' life existed as an outstanding example of how public service can be ennobled by the right kind of leadership.

I ask that an article from the Herald News be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows

[From Herald News, July 19, 2007]

DAVID A. WAKS, 66, LED LIFE OF SERVICE

(By Suzanne Travers)

WAYNE.—David A. Waks, who championed integrity in public service for almost 40 years, first as a councilman, then as mayor in Wayne, and later as a state Superior Court judge in Paterson, died at his home here Wednesday.

The cause of death was lung cancer, diagnosed in mid-November, his wife, Joan, said.

Waks, 66, who once described himself to a reporter as an "ornery cuss" but told voters they could count on him to be fair-minded, even-handed and flexible, was known for his honesty, compassion, intelligence and hard work.

"He was one of Passaic County's real jewels," said Rep. Bill Pascrell Jr. (D-Paterson), a close friend for whom Waks' son, Joseph, previously worked as spokesman.

Born and raised in Paterson, Waks moved to Wayne and got his start in politics in 1971 as an advocate for local tenants after his landlord hiked his apartment's rent by 20 percent.

He was elected to the council with heavy support from 5th Ward renters, and continued to support enforcement of tenants' rights. Often the only Democrat on a Republican governing body, Waks was elected mayor in 1994 and again in 1997, resigning to become judge in 2000.

In December 1971, Wayne's township council voted to give one of its last liquor licenses to the friend of a councilman. Soon after he was sworn in, in January 1972, Waks drafted a resolution to rescind the issuance of the license. To avoid public allegations of cronyism, the councilman's friend returned the license before the resolution could go before the council, and the license was later issued to a Vietnam veteran who opened a now-defunct liquor store on Route 23.

"It was a nice way to get started," said Waks. "Everybody knew the first time it was political patronage. It was the first thing I ever did, and still one of the proudest."

Waks' tenure coincided with an era in which former Wayne officials, including its